



## **SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS**

### **SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

**141 WEST ELM \* WICHITA, KANSAS 67203 \* TELEPHONE: (316) 383-7264 \* FAX: (316) 383-7758**

**MEDIA RELEASE:**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: MARCH 5, 2002**

**AGENCY: SEDGWICK COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

**CONTACT: MAJOR JACKIE STUART**

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### **TWO NEW "DEPUTIES" ADDED TO SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

**ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, AT THE SEDGWICK COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING, SEDGWICK COUNTY SHERIFF GARY STEED WILL INTRODUCE THE TWO NEWEST "DEPUTIES" IN THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT. IT IS NOT EXPECTED THAT THE NEW DEPUTIES WILL MAKE COMMENTS – UNLESS IT'S A BARK OF GREETING!**

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**“MAX” AND “ROMMEL” ARE CANINES TO BE TRAINED FOR PATROL AND NARCOTICS WORK FOR THE NEWLY CREATED SEDGWICK COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT K9 UNIT. DEPUTY KEITH ALLEN IS THE HANDLER FOR MAX, A BELGIAN MALINOIS, AND DEPUTY HENRY COCKING IS THE HANDLER FOR ROMMEL, A GERMAN SHEPHERD. ALLEN AND COCKING WERE SELECTED FROM SEVERAL INTERESTED DEPUTIES TO BE HANDLERS. THEY, ALONG WITH THE CANINES, WILL UNDERGO A RIGOROUS TEN-WEEK TRAINING PROGRAM AT THE KANSAS HIGHWAY PATROL ACADEMY IN SALINA.**

**IN ANNOUNCING THE ADDITIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT SHERIFF STEED COMMENTS, “MAX AND ROMMEL ARE OUR LATEST TOOLS TO ASSIST IN THE DEPARTMENT’S MISSION OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY. THE K9 UNIT WILL BECOME A TEAM CAPABLE OF DETECTING MARIJUANA, COCAINE, HEROIN/OPIUM AND METHAMPHETAMINE. IN ADDITION, THE DOGS WILL BE TRAINED IN TRACKING SUSPECTS, CONDUCTING BUILDING SEARCHES, LOCATING EVIDENCE, CROWD CONTROL AND LOCATING MISSING PERSONS.”**

**SHERIFF STEED FURTHER COMMENTS, “THE K9 UNIT WOULD NOT BE**

**\*\*\*MORE\*\*\***

POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY.  
AN ANONYMOUS BENEFACTOR DONATED THE CANINES TO THE  
DEPARTMENT. FOOD AND SUPPLIES HAVE BEEN FURNISHED BY  
GUPTON'S PETS; CMC CONCRETE AND SAM'S FENCING. R&D  
CAMPERLAND AND TRACTOR SUPPLY HAVE DONATED OTHER  
EQUIPMENT. "

THE DEPUTIES AND THEIR CANINE PARTNERS WILL BEGIN THEIR  
TRAINING PROGRAM IN MARCH. THE UNIT WILL BE OPERATIONAL BY  
EARLY SUMMER.

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